

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed on August 12, 2003. Claims 1-6 and 8 are pending in the application with Claim 1 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended and Claim 7 has been cancelled.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims, such as that the ground conductor is a printed circuit board ground plane as claimed in Claim 7. Claim 7 has been cancelled. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,903,822 issued to Sekine et al. on May 11, 1999 ("Sekine et al.").

Claim 1 has been amended in a manner which is believed to better define Applicants' invention and to overcome the rejection. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to include recitations recited by original Claims 4 and 5. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that a new search is not warranted for the examination of amended Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-6 and 8.

Claim 1 now recites "A wireless terminal comprising a ground conductor and a plurality of antenna feeds, wherein each antenna feed is coupled directly to the ground conductor, wherein each side of the ground conductor has a surface area greater than the surface area of each of the plurality of antenna feeds, and wherein the ground conductor has at least one uni-directional slot parallel to the major axis of the terminal." (Emphasis added)

Sekine et al. does not disclose or suggest, or illustrate via the plurality of figures, a wireless terminal as recited by Applicants' Claim 1. In particular, Sekine et al. does not disclose or suggest a wireless terminal having the features as recited by Claim 1, including the feature of the wireless terminal having a ground conductor which has at least one uni-directional slot parallel to the major axis of the terminal, as recited by Applicants' Claim 1.

At best, Sekine et al. discloses in conjunction with Figure 28 a wireless terminal (radio or telephone) having a T-shaped notch 153, i.e., a non uni-directional slot, where a portion of the notch (that is, the vertical portion) is parallel to the major axis of the wireless terminal. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claims 1-6 and 8 are respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 5 recite features which are not disclosed or suggested by Sekine et al. In particular, Claims 4 and 5 recite that the at least one uni-directional slot provides a tuning fork configuration having at least three tines at at least one end of the ground conductor, and that a first of the at least one uni-directional slot is parallel to a second of the at least one uni-directional slot, respectively. These features are not disclosed or suggested by Sekine et al. Therefore, Claims 4 and 5 are believed to contain patentable subject matter.

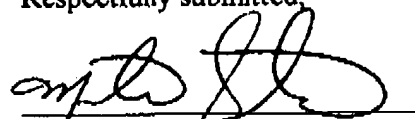
Additionally, Claims 2-6 and 8, which include Claims 4 and 5, depend from Claim 1, and therefore include the limitations of Claim 1. Accordingly, for the same reasons given for Claim 1, Claims 2-6 and 8 are believed to contain patentable subject matter. Hence, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claims 2-6 and 8 are respectfully requested.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekine et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,876,552 issued to Zakman on October 24, 1989. Claim 7 has been cancelled. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims presently pending in the application, namely, Claims 1-6 and 8, are believed to be in condition for allowance and patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Jack D. Slobod, Esq., Intellectual Property Counsel, Philips Electronics North America, at 914-333-9606.

Respectfully submitted,


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